

Attorney Docket No.: F7709(V)
Serial No.: 10/562,174
Filed: December 21, 2005
Confirmation No.: 1317

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants herewith submit an Information Disclosure Statement for the above-identified application.

Documents relating to the above-identified application are submitted herewith. These documents area intended for the Examiner's information and for citation with the instant case. This submission does not constitute either a representation that a thorough search has been made or an admission that the documents cited herein are properly citable against the above-identified application. An attached PTO Form 1449 lists all the documents.

No additional fee is required since this information is filed prior to the first Office Action on the merits. (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 12-1155, including all required fees under: 37 C.F.R. §1.16; 37 C.F.R. §1.17; 37 C.F.R. §1.18; 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

Respectfully submitted,



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| FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: F7709(V) FILING DATE: December 21, 2005 Page 1 of 1 | | | |
|---|--|---|------------|--|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIALS | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | NAME OF INVENTOR | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 6 126 979 | 03 Oct. 00 | Herreid, et al. | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER INITIALS | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES OR NO |
| | | 0 888 722 | 07 Jan. 99 | EP | | | X (w/abstract) |
| | | 0 981 970 | 01 Mar. 00 | EP | | | |
| | | 02/069742 | 12 Sep. 02 | WO | | | |
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| OTHER DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | <u>International Search Report, PCT/EP2004/005755, mailed 05 November 2004, 2 pp.</u> | | | | | |
| | | <u>European Search Report, EP 03 07 6936, dated 09 October 2003, 2 pp.</u> | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER /Hong Mehta/ | | | | DATE CONSIDERED 11/05/2008 | | | |
| EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THORUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT. | | | | | | | |
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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /H.M./